

Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Thursday, August 27, 2026 · As of Aug 27, 2026 09:30 ET · Sentiment: Neutral

Global energy markets present a mixed picture today, with crude oil prices holding firm on persistent geopolitical tensions, while natural gas sees slight declines. Shipping rates remain robust for crude tankers, driven by strong demand and high asset values, though LNG freight faces headwinds. Equities are slightly down as currency markets see minor fluctuations.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	45,500	42,800
Suezmax, 130	WAF-UKC	28,000	26,500
Aframax, 80	Carib-USGC	22,000	21,500

CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	21,000	27,000
MR, 37	TC2 (UKC-USAC)	18,500	19,200

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	50,000	129.0	138.0

LNG (\$/DAY)

Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	12,500	Bearish	31,000
174M3 MEGI (Atlantic)	15,000	Flat	35,000

LPG (\$/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	35,000
VLGC, 44 (USGC-Japan)	42,000

BUNKERS (\$/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	780.0	650.0	1,100.0
Rotterdam	760.0	630.0	1,080.0
Fujairah	790.0	660.0	1,120.0

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	5,950.00	-55.00
FTSE 100 United Kingdom	8,250.00	-30.00

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	94.50	+0.85
WTI NYMEX	\$/bbl	90.20	+0.75

PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	289.00	+2.50
ULSD Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	295.50	+1.80

NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	3.50	-0.10
TTF (Europe) ICE	EUR/MWh	32.80	-0.50

NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	366.45	+1.10
US Mont Belvieu Ethane NYMEX	\$/gal	0.28	+0.01

PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	26.88	-0.25
WTI/Brent Spread	\$/bbl	-4.30	-0.10

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	70.10	70.15
California Carbon Allowances (Spot)	\$/ton	38.50	38.60

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/\$	1.11	-0.01
\$/JPY	148.50	+0.20

DEVELOPMENTS

Panama Canal Authority Announces Further Draft Restrictions Amid Prolonged Drought

The Panama Canal has implemented additional draft restrictions and reduced daily transit slots, impacting global shipping schedules and increasing transit costs...

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Major Container Lines Cautiously Re-evaluate Red Sea Transits as Security Improves

Following improved security assessments, several major container shipping companies are beginning to send vessels through the Red Sea and Suez Canal, signaling...

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VLCC Secondhand Values Maintain Decade-High Premiums Amid Strong Demand and Limited Newbuild Slots

The market for Very Large Crude Carriers continues to see robust secondhand prices, with 5-year-old vessels trading at significant premiums over newbuilds due to...

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Concerns Mount Over China's Oil Demand Growth as Economic Headwinds Persist

Latest data indicates a continued slowdown in Chinese oil imports and refinery utilization, raising questions about the country's role as a primary driver of gl...

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Global LNG Spot Rates Under Pressure as Geopolitical Tensions Ease and Supply Outlook Improves

LNG shipping spot rates have softened, with easing geopolitical concerns in key transit choke points and a more balanced supply-demand outlook contributing to a...

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Record Investment in Energy Transition Continues, But Pace of Growth Moderates

While global investment in clean energy technologies surpassed \$2 trillion in 2024, the rate of increase has slowed, prompting discussions on policy support nee...

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